the approval of competent authority to accommodate such cases of extreme compassion which are not within the parameters of the existing rules.

AMENDMENT TO U.L.C. ACT

3479. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have inquired into the reason, why State Governments are not responding to the proposals sent by Centre for drastic alteration in ULC Act; and

(b) what are the proposals regarding ULC Act amendments by the Central Government and when these proposals were sent to States for their comments and what is the response ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGAN) : (a) and (b) Various proposals to amend the ULC; Act were discussed in meeting of the Chief Ministers held on 11--12 June, 1990 and 7-3-92. On the basis of the suggestions received from State Governments, various proposals have been formulated by the Govt. These proposals aim at boosting housing activities and making available more lands for development purposes in order to sub-serve the common good.

REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT IN REGARD TO SARDAR SAROVAR DAM

*3480. SHRI M. A. BABY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R and R) in relation to the Sardar Sarovar Dam are not being undertaken on proper lines as assured by the concerned authorities and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the monitoring agencies have expressed grave reservations about the possibilities of rehabilitation of the tribals of Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the steps being considered by Government to ensure proper rehabilitation and resettlement of those affected by the above project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGAN) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Sardar Sarovar Project is being constructed under the Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal Award which laid down guidelines for resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected people of Sardar Sarovar Project taking into account the traditional rights of the tribals. The State Governments of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra which are parties to the Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal Award have offered much more liberalised resettlement and rehabilitation packages to the project affected people with a view to improve their standard of living and quality of life. The tribals in the project affected area who are being resettled are bound to gain immensely from these packages. Narmada Control Authority has set up a Sub-group on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Sardar Saroval Project affected people with Secretary in the Union Ministry of Welfare as Chairman to oversee the implementation of resettlement and rehabilitation programme as per policies.

*Previously Unstarred Question 1726, transferred from the 15th December, 1993.